

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 14601 311949Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 NASA-01 OES-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 ERDA-05 L-03 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 DODE-00 /070 W

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R 311958Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4660

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 14601

PASS AID AND NASA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN INTEREST IN REGIONAL EARTH RESOURCES
CENTER

1. DURING COURSE OF S&T COUNSELOR'S INITIAL CALL ON CONACYT DIRGEN EDMUNDO FLORES, WHO ALSO SERVES AS PRESIDENTIAL SCIENCE ADVISER, FLORES MENTIONED HIS GREAT INTEREST IN ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL REMOTE SENSING GROUND STATION AND TRAINING CENTER IN MEXICO. TENTATIVELY, HE IS THINKING IN TERMS OF A STATION COMPLETE WITH DATA PROCESSING CAPABILITY, PROBABLY LOCATED IN CHIAPAS STATE. CENTER COULD WELL SERVE AS A REGIONAL FACILITY FOR ALL OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN AND PROVIDE COVERAGE AS WELL FOR VENEZUELA AND PERHAPS COLOMBIA. FLORES INDICATED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS PROJECT WHILE IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK. (FYI: WE UNDERSTAND FLORES MET INTER ALIA WITH PRES SCIENCE ADVISER FRANK PRESS AND WITH NASA AND BID OFFICIALS.)

2. FLORES ESTIMATES COST OF CENTER AT ABOUT US\$ 8

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 14601 311949Z

MILLION. HE HAS INSTRUCTED MEX SCICOUNS IN WASHINGTON TO WORK WITH BID, WHICH HE BELIEVES TO BE MOST INTERESTED IN PROVIDING A LOAN FOR THE PROJECT.

3. FLORES ASKED THAT THIS BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL FOR THE TIME BEING, AS IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CAREFULLY NEGOTIATE ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER STATES IN THE LANDSAT

COVERAGE AREA OF THE PROPOSED STATION. OVERLAP WITH US STATIONS WOULD BE MINIMAL, BUT FLORES RECOGNIZES NEED TO AGREE ON THIS WITH NASA.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN INDICATION OF POSSIBLE AID/W AND NASA INTEREST IN THIS IDEA, INCLUDING POSSIBILITY THAT AID/W WOULD WELCOME MORE SPECIFIC MEXICAN PROPOSAL FOR SUPPORT FOR THIS CENTER AS A REGIONAL TRAINING FACILITY. LUCEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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TAGS: TSPA, EFIN, MX, US
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